

From:

Sent:

Friday, August 31, 2018 12:51 PM

To:

Cc:

Subject:

RE: VRS Information

Good Afternoon,

I do not know where to begin. I want to reassure the Secretary, Erica, Michele, and the Board that I am not being told what to say or being intimidated by Mr. Dearing or anyone else here at SBE or SOS in any way and I am not being told not to do something for SOS. I am much stressed over what has happened in the last 10 months. I went home last night and it was 3 am this morning before I finally went to sleep. This morning I came in with my head up and thought this was going to be a better day, but upon opening my emails this morning my day went to HELL. I may be out of line here by speaking what is on my mind and heart. We have tried our best here at SBE not to play politics at work, at our homes. Here at SBE we do not care if you are D or R or any other affiliation we are employees that work for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In the last 10 months or so, it become an issue here at the office. I want to say this whole ordeal has turned our office upside down not once but twice in 10 months. We are a tight knit family here at SBE and we are a team, we do not work against each other, we work with each other. This has caused a lot of stress up all of us. We here at SBE work hard and do our jobs to the best of our abilities. We feel that in the past year or so that we have been viewed as being incompetent to do our jobs, and we have never experienced this in the past years.

I want to explain something about voter registration data orders, because this has weighed heavy on my mind and heart. I was never asked how does a voter registration data request get processed or what is the process of fulfilling a voter registration order. When I took this position fulfilling voter registration data orders, 12 + years ago... I was trained by Sandy Milburn the Assistant Executive Director at that time. If a requestor checked duly qualified candidate for the office of, you filled that order, you take their word that they are a duly qualified candidate. If duly authorized representative or committee was checked you did not question that, because they were signing under OATH, that they are one or the other. If "OTHER" was marked you took the order and the letter they submitted to the Director at this time it was Ms. Johnson, she then would sign off on it, if the Director did not feel this met the Statues then it went in front of the Board. This was carried out when Ms. Allen and Mr. Selph became the Executive Director and Assistant Director. In the beginning of 2018 at one Board meetings, it was presented to the Board that orders had been fulfilled in this office without the Board's knowledge. This made me angry and uncomfortable at that time; I did not fulfill these orders just CAUSE.... The Director for many, many years would sign off on the requests. I take my job seriously and when it is thrown out there like it was at this meeting I was very angry because I fulfilled those orders and I would never do anything to jeopardize my job or my character.

- 1) Erica when I received your email yesterday afternoon, I asked Fielding Hodgkin to come to my office and see what exactly you were asking for, because I was not sure. At this time, he told me you wanted a statewide voter file he thought. Therefore, I emailed you stating I did not know what to do. I have never been asked to fill an order without proper documentation. I stated to you that it must have been Aaron or someone else that would have sent that file over, because I had never known or heard that we sent a file to SOS after voter credit was given. When I stated again, I did not fill comfortable doing this, you stated that the Board had voted on the Resolution Reaffirming the roles of the Secretary and she had every right to request this data. Which the email comes from you not the Secretary. I did not say I would not fill the order, I told you I was uncomfortable filling this order due to Matt Selph's lawsuit and an employee at the SBE being accused giving information to the Secretary of State without presenting proper documentation to get this data. I stated that I could not afford to

lose my job and I did not want see in headlines an SBE employee gave voter registration data information out. I did cry and was upset. I also stated that everyone has to fill out a request form. I feel if it is required for one it required for all no matter who you are and I voiced this concern as well. I know that we went in front of the Board because it was presented to the Board that this office (SBE) was fulfilling orders to whomever they wanted without the Boards knowledge, which is now a requirement of the Board. When you called me, I had you on speaker so I could finish entering an order, you stated that you had Steve Spisak in the office, he explained to me that I would just do the statewide order as if someone had requested it and to put on a thumb drive. Again, I stated I did not fill comfortable because I did not have a request form. When I went to say and did not get to because you cut me offI will use your email as a request, you interrupted me and raised your voice not yelling but your tone changed as if you demanding me to do it, and stated once again that the Board approved the Resolution Reaffirming the duties of the Secretary.

- 2) As for Jared being in my office unannounced, let me assure you he was not in my office when the conversation started. Mr. Dearing was speaking to Lisa Mayewski in the hallway as I was on the phone with you discussing the above matter. Mr. Dearing then stepped to my door and said "Erica this Jared and I want to know why you are requesting the data without going through the proper channels." He then stated this conversation is over and hung the phone up.
- 3) In this email you state that the minutes on page 4, Secretary Grimes is requesting this data to review records and verify voter credit before any voter registration data orders are fulfilled. This is not what was said at the August 21, 2018, meeting. Secretary Grimes asked Mr. Dearing, if there had been any orders fulfilled before the voter credit had been given. Mr. Dearing stated "NO" and Secretary Grimes stated she wanted to make sure that had not happen and that there would not be anyone asking for refunds. Secretary Grimes asked the Board to join her in reviewing signature rosters to assure that voter credit was given correctly. To choose 5 people and lets spot check them. I again felt concerned that I had done something wrong, because no where did Secretary Grimes state that voter registration data orders could not be fulfilled before the she and Board looked at the voter credit. Because I have been fulfilling order since voter credit was given.
- 4) Michele Starkweather called me on my cell to check on me, I expressed to her how uncomfortable I was with all this bickering and the request that Erica had sent me through email. Michele asked if I was being threatened or intimidated by anyone. I told her "NO" I did tell her I was afraid that I would lose my job and that I had never fulfilled or been asked to give voter registration data to anyone without proper documentation. I told her I was concerned because there had been headlines of an SBE employee giving voter registration data to Secretary without voter registration request form being filled out. Michele assured me time and time again my job was and would not be jeopardized by this request.
- 5) Again let me say I am/was stuck in the middle. I hope all this will be resolved and we can get back to our daily routines and put all this behind us.